

REMARKS

Claims 49-61 are pending in the present application.

Claims 44-48 are canceled with this Amendment.

Claims 49-53 and 56-58 are amended to change their dependency from canceled claim 44 to new claim 59. Claim 58 is also amended by deleting the term “from” in line two.

Claims 59-61 are new.

Claim 57 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention.

The expression “and the like” has been deleted from the claim.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 57 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claims 44-52 and 57-58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. 4,384,930 to Eckles as evidenced by U.S. 4,168,214 to Fletcher et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 44-48 are canceled. Accordingly, the rejection with respect to these claims is moot.

Claims 49-52 and 57-58 depend from new claim 59. New claim 59 recites specific brighteners which are not taught in Eckles. Accordingly, Eckles does not anticipate Claims 49-52 and 57-58. New claim 59 excludes the metals gold and cadmium and cyclic alkenyls.

New claim 61 also is patentable over Eckles for the same reasons as claim 59. Claim 61 excludes benzaldehyde and 2-chloro-4-hydroxybenzaldehyde.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 49-52 and 57-58 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. 4,384,930 to Eckles.

Claim 57 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. 4,384,930 to Eckles. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 57 is amended to depend from new claim 59. Claim 59 is patentable over Eckles since Eckles is silent on the brighteners recited in the claim. Accordingly, claim 57 is patentable over Eckles as well.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 57 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. 4,384,930 to Eckles.

Claims 46-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. 4,384,930 to Eckles in view of U.S. 4,137,133 to Arcilesi.

Claims 46-48 are canceled. Accordingly, this rejection is moot.

New claims 59 and 61 are patentable over Eckles in view of Arcilesi because neither document teaches or suggests the brighteners recited in the claims.

Claims 53-54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. 4,384,930 to Eckles in view of U.S. 4,168,214 to Fletcher et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 53-54 depend directly or indirectly from claim 59. Accordingly, these claims are patentable over Eckels for the same reasons as claim 59.

Fletcher et al. do not make up for the deficiencies of Eckles. Fletcher et al. do not teach or suggest the brighteners recited in claim 59. Fletcher et al. are totally silent on such brighteners. Further, Fletcher et al. are specifically directed to gold plating. The presently claimed invention is not directed to gold plating.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 53-54 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. 4,384,930 to Eckles in view of U.S. 4,168,214 to Fletcher et al.

Claims 53-55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. 4,384,930 to Eckles in view of U.S. 3,616,446 to DeWitt. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

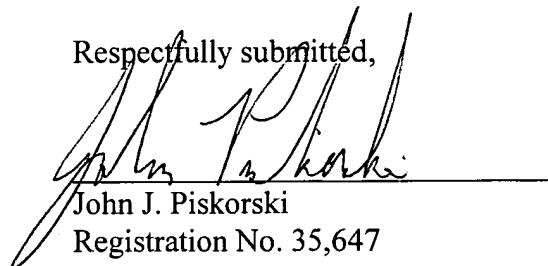
Claims 53-55 depend directly or indirectly from claim 59. Accordingly, they are patentable over Eckles for the same reason as claim 59.

DeWitt does not make up for the deficiencies of Eckles. Eckles does not teach or suggest the brighteners recited in claim 59.

Further, DeWitt is not properly combinable with Eckles. They are non-analogous art. Eckles is directed to electroplating baths and the electrodeposition of metals (col. 1, lines 7-9). In contrast, DeWitt is directed to electrolysis of aqueous alkali metal chloride in the production of elemental chlorine or alkali metal chlorate (col. 1, lines 4-8), not electrodeposition of metal. Each document is directed to a different purpose. Accordingly, Eckles and DeWitt are not properly combinable.

Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 53-55 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. 4,384,930 to Eckles in view of U.S. 3,616,446 to DeWitt.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this response or this application, or should he believe this application is for any reason not yet in condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned at the number set forth below in order to expedite allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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